

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03
OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02
SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ABF-01 /100 W
-----104747 191918Z /45

R 191817Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0794

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR OECD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD, EFIN

SUBJ: TDB OFFICIALS MEETING, SEPT 5-9

REF: (A) STATE 193089, (B) LONDON 13810

1. SUMMARY: FRG ECONMIN OFFICIALS INFORMED EMBASSY OFFICER THAT THERE WAS HARDLY ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND FRG SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS. HOWEVER, THEY FEEL THAT US PROCEDURAL PROPOSALS ARE TOO FORMAL AND ARE NOT LIKELY TO SUCCEED IN VIEW OF THE POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE OF UNCTAD. THEY REPLIED IN DETAIL TO MANY ITEMS IN REFTEL. END SUMMARY.

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2. RE SECOND TALKING POINT (PARA 7, REFTEL) FRG ECONMIN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AGENDA IS SHORT OR LONG, LDCS WILL STILL CONCENTRATE ON DEBT QUESTION. THEREFORE FRG IS INCLINED TO FOLLOW GROUP B MAJORITY POSITION ON ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA.

3. RE SUBPARA A, FRG WOULD PREFER TO AVOID DISCUSSION OF MANUFACTURES, WHICH MIGHT GET INTO GATT ISSUES. THEY ALSO SEE LITTLE POINT IN DISCUSSING ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING NATIONS, SINCE A WORK PROGRAM WAS ESTABLISHED IN MAY AND THERE IS LITTLE FURTHER TO DISCUSS UNTIL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAM HAS BEGUN. ON EAST/SOUTH TRADE, ECONMIN AND FONMIN OFFICIALS INFORMED US THEY AGREE WITH DESIRABILITY OF MAKING IT A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM, BUT WOULD NOT WISH TO PROPOSE IT BEFORE SOUNDING OUT THE GROUP-77 ON THE IDEA. THE MENTION OF "NEUTRAL PROGRESS REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT" SEEMS UNREALISTIC TO ECONMIN OFFICIALS. FURTHERMORE, THEY BELIEVE DISCUSSION OF A COMMON FUND CANNOT BE AVOIDED, IF THE LDGS WISH TO HAVE IT.

4. RE SUBPARA B ECONMIN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT IT IS GOING TOO FAR TO SAY THAT OBLIGATIONS REGARDING LLDC DEBT HAVE BEEN SATISFIED FULLY. THEY BELIEVE THAT IT WAS NOT ENOUGH TO AGREE ON "SPECIAL ACTION", BUT THAT THE OBSTACLES TO IMPLEMENTATION ALSO HAVE TO BE OVERCOME. A MAJOR OBSTACLE IS, OF COURSE, THE LACK OF FINAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES ON THE CURRENT AID APPROPRIATIONS BILL.

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5. REGARDING SUBPARA C, WHILE THE FRG OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE THAT RESOLUTION 94 (IV) REFLECTS A NARROW MANDATE, THEY FEEL SURE THAT IF THIS ARGUMENT IS PRESENTED, THE LDGS WILL REPLY BY MAKING REFERENCE TO RESOLUTION 90 (IV) WHICH IS VERY BROAD.

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SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ABF-01 /100 W
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R 191817Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0795
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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6. FRG OFFICIALS SEE NO PROBLEMS WITH US PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS REGARDING "NORTH/SOUTH EVENTS". WITH RESPECT TO TIMING OF THE TDB MINISTERIAL, HOWEVER, THEY ARE DOUBTFUL THAT IT CAN BE LIMITED TO TWO OR THREE DAYS. IN FACT, THEY POINT OUT THAT IF THE MEETING IS SCHEDULED TO END ON A FRIDAY, IT WILL PROBABLY EXTEND THROUGH SUNDAY ANYWAY. THEREFORE, ON SUCH PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, THE FRG WILL SIMPLY JOIN THE MAJORITY OF GROUP B.

7. WITH RESPECT TO THE SECOND EXPERTS MEETING ON DEBT, THE FRG AGREES THAT SUCH A MEETING IS NOT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEEDED, BUT THEY POINT OUT THAT GROUP B HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL FOR THE MEETING AND BELIEVE THAT THE MEETING CANNOT BE STOPPED IF THE LDCS WISH TO HOLD IT. FURTHERMORE, THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE ARE SOME ADVANTAGES TO HOLDING THE MEETING, SINCE IT COULD RESULT IN LESS TIME OF THE MINISTERIAL MEETING BEING TAKEN UP BY THIS ISSUE.

8. IN CONCLUSION, FRG OFFICIALS URGE THAT US DELEGATION KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH GERMAN DELEGATION IN ORDER TO COORDINATE TACTICS AS WELL AS OVERALL POLICIES.
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